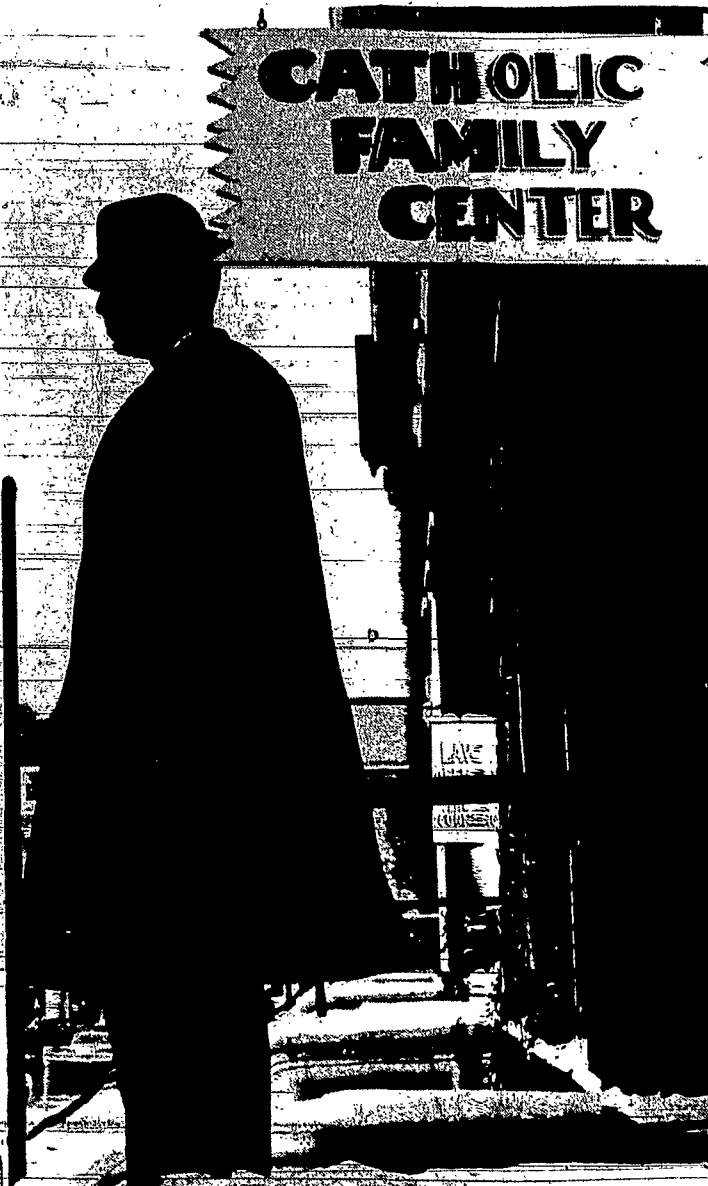




COUNSELING the many clients who enter his office is one of the main jobs of Robert McAvoy, who heads the Catholic Family Center in Auburn.



A FAMILIAR FIGURE on Auburn's Williams Street is social worker Robert McAvoy, who has been on this scene for the past eight years.

Social Worker Covers the Field

Social workers, as a rule, are very busy people — but they aren't all as busy about many different problems as Auburn's Robert McAvoy. He's Executive Director of the Catholic Family Center, which is a branch of the Diocesan Catholic Charities complex.

In a large city social agency the divisions are clear-cut and most of the social workers specialize in some category. In a smaller city (Auburn is about 36,800 population), a social worker is more apt to be a "general practitioner."

That's the way Robert McAvoy prefers it—he likes variety. Now in his 8th year at the helm of the Auburn Catholic Family Center, he has seen the case load grow since 1938 when he first arrived.

Until 1963, he was not only at the helm, he sailed the ship alone—but two years ago, the agency was able to add another full time case worker, Alvero Cannucciari.

While his office handles a wide assortment of human problems, the bulk of the work falls into three categories: parent-child counseling, marital counseling and the combination of unwed mothers and adoption cases.

Right now the shortage of adoptive parents in the Cayuga County area is deepening the furrows in his brow.

"We are especially looking for adoptive parents who are interested in infants" he noted, adding that they must be Cayuga County residents for his office to handle the request.

"The rate of unwed mothers has risen sharply in the past three years," he commented, "and I know that this isn't just a local trend, from talking to other social work people."

The Auburn agency counseled only 11 unwed mothers in 1963, but the number jumped to 25 in 1964 and rose again slightly last year.

McAvoy made the point in a recent interview that babies are normally adopted in a different locality. "For example, most of the babies adopted here are from out of town" to avoid any possibility of identifying the unwed mother and the baby who is adopted, he explained.

In recent years his office has been working with more than 200 families a year in the Auburn area. This keeps McAvoy, Cannucciari and their secretary, Mrs. Catherine Burns Culklin, hopping, and their Williams

Street office is a busy spot. "We make home calls, of course, but prefer the office setting. Our clients find it more private, less distracting than at home, where a person may be trying to keep their eye on the children while talking to a social worker at the same time," McAvoy commented.

An early start on counseling when marital problems arise was stressed by McAvoy. "Some people wait until their partner has already gone to a lawyer to start separation proceedings before coming to see us," he said ruefully. "That's pretty late to do anything constructive for a marriage."

He feels that in about one-third of their marital counseling cases, "we can make some real progress," and that in another third, "we can perhaps hold the line, keep things from worsening." With the remaining third, which includes many of the "too little and too late" people mentioned above, McAvoy says, "there isn't too much we can do, but we try anyway."

More people tend to come in on their own for counseling today, rather than wait to be referred by someone, the Auburn social worker noted.

Besides many hours at the desk, McAvoy finds himself a man of many meetings. Some of these are with other professionals—for an exchange of ideas, to improve our cooperation, etc."

Other meetings are in the "public-relations" category, telling the story of the scope of the Catholic Family Center to parish and civic groups, participating on panel discussions and forums.

The Auburn center is linked with the United Fund of Auburn and Cayuga County, which supplies 80 per cent of the budget needs of the agency. The remainder of its needs are met by the Diocesan Needs collection, and from some individual bequests.

McAvoy paid warm tribute to the support and guidance he gets from his own Board of Directors. It's headed by Auburn attorney James Cuddy, and has representatives from all the parishes in Cayuga County.

McAvoy, his wife Dorothy and their five children are members of St. Alphonsus parish. He's a graduate of Aquinas Institute in Rochester, St. Bonaventure University and received his M.A. degree from Catholic University.

There must be an attraction to social work in the McAvoy family. His sister, Ruth, is a social worker in Ithaca.

To Veteran's Hospital

Knights Make 31st Visit

Thirty-first annual trip of members of Rochester Council Knights of Columbus and Auxiliary to bring entertainment and creature comforts to veterans at the U.S. Facility, Bath, N.Y., has brought commendation from the Veterans Administration.

"This year's Knights of Columbus program was extraordinary and certainly was a morale booster for patients and members," Chester K. Friedland, Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Staff wrote following the trip.

A bus load of knights and auxiliary members went to Bath on Jan. 2 from the council's new home, 513 Montrose

Ave. The group was headed by Grand Knight Robert J. Farrell and Deputy Grand Knight Edward L. Miller, chairman of this year's trip. Seventeen entertainers were in the group.

A committee headed by Mr. and Mrs. John E. Gartland presented the gifts from the knights after both performances. Entertainment was under the technical supervision of Mrs. Ella Russell and Raymond L. Nary, Master of the Fifth District, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus.

The knights and ladies were served coffee and doughnuts on return to the Rochester K. of C. Home under direction of Past Grand Knight Vincent L. Hannan.

The Home Personnel were entertained at 7 p.m. in the Auditorium Theater.

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Father Brent to Students:

Your Talent Will Shape the Future

A leading priest educator of Church it is important that the Rochester area told a gathering of over 1200 Aquinas students last week that each must on society.

Father Daniel Brent, Associate Superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Rochester, spoke at the annual academic awards assembly when 68 students were honored for outstanding scholastic achievement.

Father Brent's talk dealt with the implications of Vatican Council II on the youth of today. "America was founded on the concept that if we are to use our freedom wisely, then we need education," he said.

"The Church is entering into an era of freedom—an era of individual responsibility. If this too is to be used wisely, it must be well directed. This comes back to education. The freedom of Vatican II involves a personal sense of direction toward what we can do for the world, for our neighbor, for the cause of the love of Christ toward our neighbor."

In conclusion, Father Brent reminded the young men that for their own personal interests and in the interest of the

The presentations included lapel pins to members of the St. Thomas Club, Aquinas scholastic honor society. Eligibility requirements include academic averages above 90 per cent. Father Brent won this award all four years at Aquinas and his name appears in the main corridor of the school on the permanent St. Thomas Club listing.

The program also included presentation of National Merit Scholarship Letters of Commendation won by 14 Aquinas students.

Guests receiving awards were: Henry Acio, Terrance Achenbach, Robert Albright, Joseph Braxel, James Byrnes, Michael Campanelli, Donald DePrez, Martin Drilling, Gerald Duffy, Edwin Graham, Paul Helberg, David Hill, Ronald Hoening, Stephen Karnisky, Mark Killenbeck, Albert Mercury, John Ortolani and Joseph Sallapa.

Father Leon G. Hart, C.S.B., principal, and Father Albert Gaelens, C.S.B., vice principal assisted Father Brent in presenting the awards.

New Office Books Ready For Adoration Members

A new Office Book for recitation at the Nocturnal Adoration vigils is now available at all four local Centers of the Society, Urban G. Kress, executive secretary, announced at the Society's Executive Committee's annual meeting.

The meeting was held at the new Knights of Columbus Building, 513 Montrose Ave., with Kress presiding Jan. 9. Preliminary plans for the annual Communion and Breakfast were discussed. Officers of the four local Centers were in attendance.

The new book containing the Office of the Blessed Sacrament is the result of extensive and careful study of modern needs and suggestions from many leaders of the Society throughout the Country.

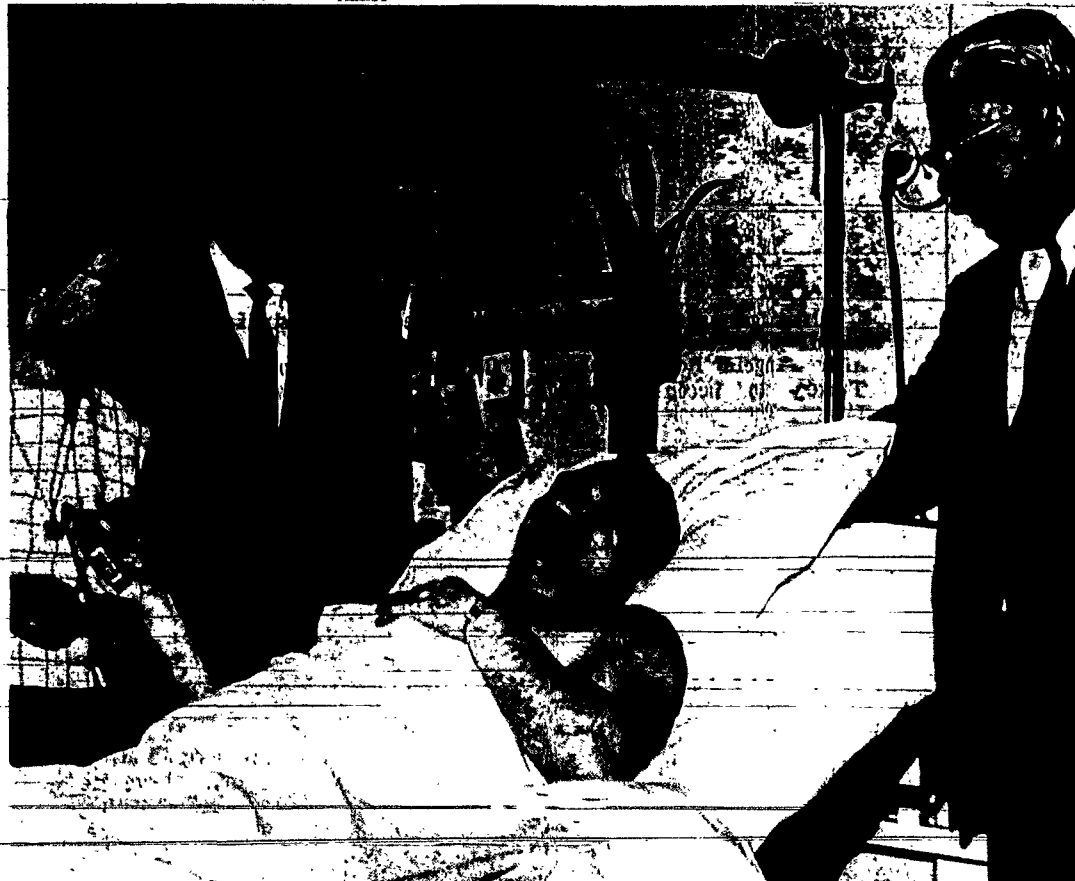
The prayers have been revised, Kress said, and more

modern language used. Directions for the Office recitation are indicated in bold red type much like the rubrics of the official missal and breviary.

The new books will be used at the January 29 vigils.

A recording of the instructions on how to use the new Office book, as well as an actual recitation of the First Nocturnal was played for members present.

Any man desiring to join the Society, which meets on the last Saturday of the month, is urged to contact one of the parish priests or call Kress at HO 7-5230.



VETERAN'S SMILE greets Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus visitors on 31st annual trip to U.S. Facility at Bath, N.Y. Patient is Paul Urda. Greeting him are Mrs. John E. Gartland, auxiliary president; Grand Knight Robert J. Farrell and Deputy Grand Knight Edward L. Miller, chairman of the 1966 visit.

Unity Meeting in Ithaca

"Christian Unity" will be the theme of a joint meeting of Church groups of high school students from the Ithaca area. The pastors and youth groups throughout the Ithaca School District have been invited to participate in the Jan. 30 affair.

In a letter of invitation to the clergy of the area, the Rev. Michael H. Wilson of St. John's Church (Episcopal) summed up the spirit of the meeting: "It is gavelly evident to thoughtful Christians throughout the world that the time has come to respond energetically to the challenge before us. It seems clear that God and the Holy Spirit encourage each of us to care more and more for the union of all people in truth, in love towards one another, and in witness to the world."

Clergymen from four denominations are serving on the planning committee, besides Father Wilson. This committee includes: Rev. Robert M. Brusie of the Lutheran Church, Rev. Warren

E. Covell of St. Paul's Methodist Church, and Rev. William E. Graf and Rev. John M. Mulligan of Immaculate Conception Church. This group has worked out the program, outlined a Scripture service, and prepared discussion questions.

The program will begin with a Scripture Service patterned on the Bible Vigils which have been held in many Catholic churches in the diocese. In addition to singing and praying together, the students themselves will do scripture readings and the brief interpretations of the passages.

After the scripture service, the teenagers will meet in small groups of mixed denominations to discuss the positive aspects of Christian unity. Following the discussion the women of the parish will serve a spaghetti supper.

After some folk singing, the group will view the movie, "The Hat," relating to the subject of unity. The students will con-

clude the day with a hymn and final blessing.

The meeting will be held at Immaculate Conception parish hall and school on Sunday, Jan. 30 from 3:30 to 7 p.m. Conflict with the semester examinations forced the change from the Sunday within the Chair of Unity Octave to Jan. 30.

The Young Christian Students group of Immaculate Conception Church is sponsoring the program and acting as hosts, handling both the organization and preparation for the meeting.



Clergymen from four denominations exemplify the theme of unity at one of the planning sessions for the "Christian Unity" program for high school students of the Ithaca area. The clergy are: (from left) Father William E. Graf of Immaculate Conception Church, Rev. Warren E. Covell from St. Paul's Methodist Church, Rev. Robert M. Brusie of the Lutheran Church, Rev. Michael H. Wilson of St. John's Episcopal Church, and Father John M. Mulligan, also of Immaculate Conception Church.

Booklet Announced For Lenten Study

"New Horizons in Scripture and Worship" is the title of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine booklet for study during Lent, Father Albert H. Schnacky, director, announced this week.

The booklet's authors, Monsignor Leon A. McNeill and Father G. H. Guyot, include chapters on God Speaks to His People, The Paschal Banquet, Sacraments—Signs of Faith, etc.

Booklets are available at the Confraternity office, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, or at Catholic book stores.

NUSBAUM'S SOUTHTOWN PLAZA

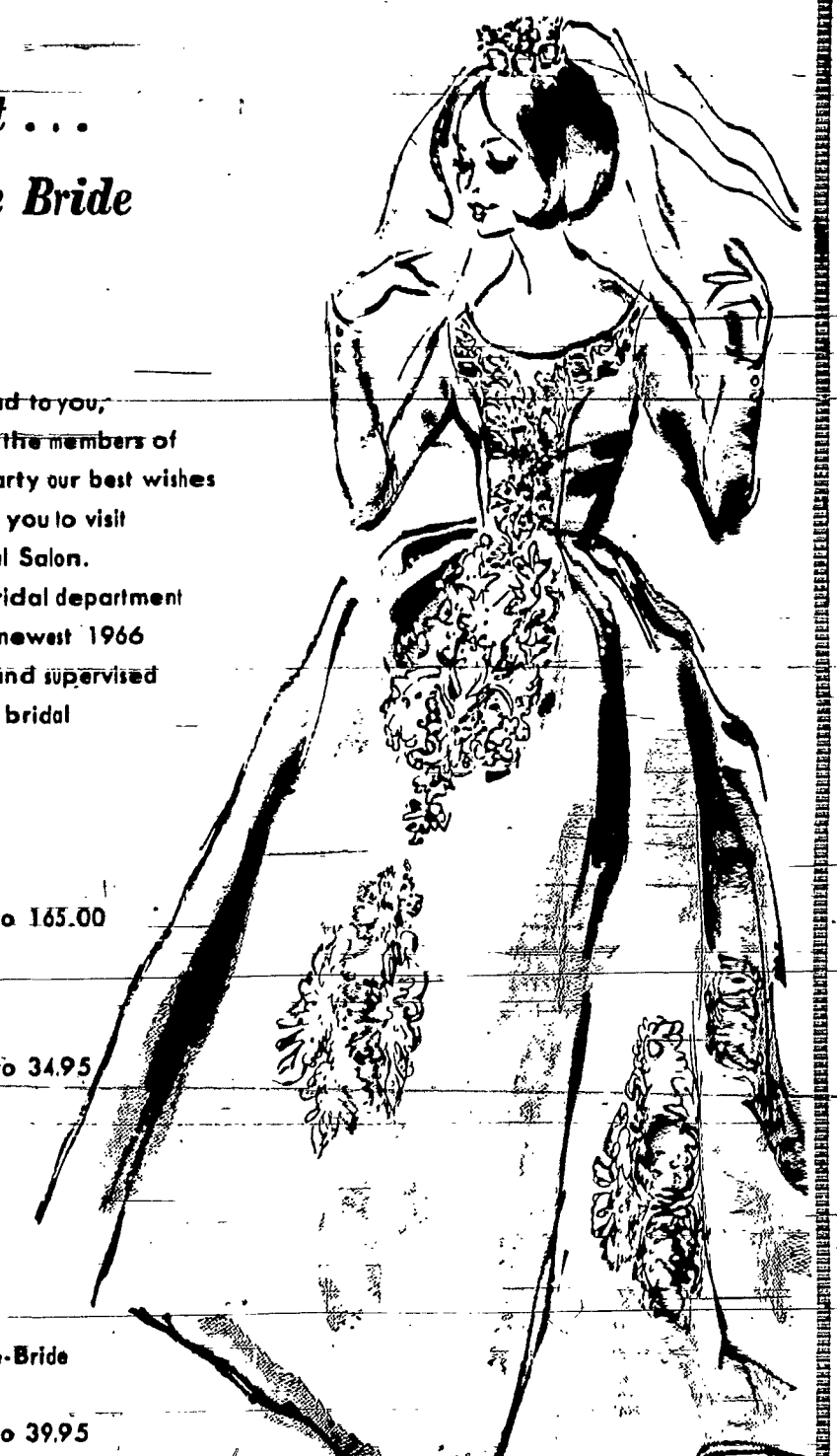
Radiant... the Bride

May we extend to you, the bride and the members of your bridal party our best wishes... and invite you to visit our new Bridal Salon. A complete bridal department showing the newest 1966 fashions... and supervised by our expert bridal consultants.

Bridal Gowns 69.50 to 165.00
Bridesmaid Dresses 24.95 to 34.95

Mother-of-the-Bride Dresses 14.95 to 39.95

Cocktail Dresses 12.99 to 35.00



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